

The GAVEL

GREETINGS OF THE SEASON

We extend our very best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to the faculty and the student body. As the "Gavel" enters the New Year its chief resolution is to give greater service to Fitchburg State Teachers College. A happy vacation to all. See you next year!

PENNY DRIVE

Last week we asked the student body to cooperate to the extent of depositing one penny in the boxes which we provided. We still ask you to do just that! We do not expect a quarter nor a half dollar - Christmas is too near - but please buy yourself a penny's worth in the Christmas of some little child. The drive for things is still on - bring any toy or article of clothing that you have and do not need.

ANOTHER INNOVATION

The Saxifrage Board has already startled the school with its unique plan of advertising. The second week after Christmas will bring another surprise to the school. On January 13, the school will have its first Stunt Night. Each club is going to present about ten minutes of concentrated entertainment. It will be high pressure fun - and there'll be no mistaking it! There will be heavy drama, burlesque, high class music, real art and so on - the very best the school is capable of producing. On with the show, folks - and don't miss it.

P. A. YELL.

Ripsaw, Ripsaw, Ripsaw, Bang,
We belong to the P. A. GANG.
Are we in it? I should smile -
We've been in it for a long, long
while.

MID YEAR EXAMINATIONS

Last year the administration improved the final examination system with the two following innovations:

(1) During examination week, only examination periods were held, the regular class periods being suspended.

(2) The administration excused those students from final examinations who, in the estimation of the instructors, ranked high enough in their marks to warrant their dismissal.

We would like to see this system continued for the following reasons:

1. It meets with the approval of students and faculty.

2. It is the custom of many colleges to use this system.

3. The elimination of the non-examination classes gives the student the opportunity to review and to crystallize his knowledge in preparation for the final.

4. Elimination of non-examination classes relieves the tension often prevalent during this period.

5. The excusing of high-ranking students is a reward for a conscientious term's study.

6. Since the college has no honor list, the excusing of high ranking students is a substitute for it.

The worth of this plan was clearly shown last year and proved to be a big step in the right direction.

EXCELLENT PRODUCTION BY DRAMATIC CLUB

"The Servant in the House" surpassed anything produced so far in the dramatic line in the history of Fitchburg Teachers College. We are deeply grateful to Miss Nixon and her capable cast for this excellent production.

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GREETINGS FROM ONE OF OUR GRADS

To the Editor of "The Gavel":

I am enjoying so much the copies of "The Gavel" sent me and read every word in each issue. I am one of the "old grads"-class of 1902, and even now after more than thirty years I am intensely interested in the school. Yes, I know it is now a college but to me it will always a "Normal School". Not because of sickly sentiment is the school dear to me as my Alma Mater but because of lasting friendships made there, and because of the foundations laid particularly in literature, music and art that have influenced my life and enjoyment of the better things in it ever since my graduation.

Just the other day when asked to join a Browning Club this winter, I took down my Browning used at Fitchburg with Miss Kendall and spent a mighty interesting hour going thro' that well marked volume. With Miss Perry my appreciation of the best in music began, and to Miss Warner I owe all my knowledge of the old masters in painting and sculpture together with those important principles of beauty and rhythm she gave us. Ask Miss McCarty - she is one of our 1902 members. That was an illustrious class.

Thank you for keeping me in touch with the school which will always be dear to my heart.

Cordially yours,
Adabelle Clarke Harvey.

To the Editor of "The Gavel":

I wish to express an opinion in answer to the editorial in the third issue of the paper entitled "A Call for Action".

I agree with the writer of this article that our College is seemingly not a dominant force in the in the community, and I firmly believe that this is due in a large measure to the fact that our activities especially in the athletic field do not get anywhere near the full quota of publicity through writeups in the local paper that they so rightly deserve. Who is at fault in this situation - the local

paper or the contact men between the College and the paper?

I stress athletics because facts and figures have shown that many of the now prominent colleges in our country have become dominant in the eyes of the public through the publicity given their athletic achievements. This has made the public not only conscious of these institutions, but it has increased their enrollment.

Our athletic teams have been given very little space and publicity in our local newspaper. Surely they are better than most teams of colleges of our size. May I show an example of this lack of space?

The day of our first basketball game not one inch of space was given on the sport page of the local paper in the way of a writeup about the team - not even in the Sport Chatter. Games that are played between out-of-town teams representing high schools that do not even play teams from Fitchburg get plenty of publicity and comment, but not our teams. Why not? It would seem that there is something wrong.

Worcester papers give good write-ups to their local colleges--why can't we? If we could bring about such a situation here, not only for athletics, but for all our events, we would soon make the community "Teachers College conscious."

William J. Donovan

MEN - By an Unsought Jewel

Men are what women marry. They have two feet, two hands, sometimes two wives, but never more than one collar or one idea at a time.

Like Turkish cigarettes, men are all made of the same material, the only difference being that some are a little better disguised than others.

Men may be divided into three classes: husbands, bachelors, and widowers. An eligible bachelor is a mass of obstinacy entirely surrounded by suspicion. Husbands are of three varieties-prizes, surprises, and consolation prizes. Making a

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husband out of a man is one of the highest arts known to civilization. It requires science, sculpture, common sense, faith, hope, and charity.

If you flatter man, it frightens him to death; if you don't you bore him to death. If you permit him to make love to you he gets tired of you in the end, and if you don't he gets tired of you in the beginning.

If you believe him in everything, you soon cease to charm him, if you don't he thinks you a cynic.

If you wear gay colors and rouge, and a startling hat, he hesitates to take you out; but if you wear a little brown toque and a tailored dress, he takes you out and stares all evening at a woman in gay colors and a startling hat.

If you are the modern type, he doubts if you have a brain; if you are a modern advanced and independent woman he doubts if you have a heart.

If you are silly, he longs for a bright mate; and if you are brilliant, he longs for a playmate. If you are popular with other men he is jealous, and if you are not, he hesitates to marry a wall-flower!

What to do?

INTRODUCTION TO COURTING RULES

Recently the male students at Bradley Tech drew up the following courting rules. M.I.T. students published it later on. We pass it on to you-all of you-for your edification, enlightenment or what have you! Here they are:

Compliment the girl occasionally. (Even flattery is good when used with discrimination).

Notice if she has anything new and tell her about it.

Don't get a haircut just before a date.

Don't talk about the other girl.

If you must have a "line" have three or four good ones, and don't use the same one on all the girls.

Don't try to "neck" a girl on the first date.

Don't sit in front of her house and knock; go up to the door.

Don't wait until the last minute to ask her for a date.

When you know she is interested show her that she has some competition.

Don't be too jealous of her.

Always appear to be neat.

Don't drag another fellow along at the last minute and expect the girl to get him a date.

Don't tell every one what you did on the date.

Be on time for a date.

Don't sit around and talk to her family if she is "raring to go."

Be natural.

Don't try to be conspicuous at a public place.

Don't be sarcastic.

If you must "neck" after first date, good technique is essential.

THE GAVELLEERS

The annual Christmas Party was held Monday night in Miss Perry's room which was attractively decorated for the occasion. Abe Belson impersonated "Santa". This requires no amplification. His bag revealed gifts - original, laughable, and occasionally useful. Bill Purcell megaphoned "Stay as Sweet as You Are"; Joe Rush crooned with his delightful voice and manner that sweet little song, "Hands Across the Table." Gordon Hill accompanied with his little piano. Concluding, all the fellows joined in singing "Silent Night".

MERRY CHRISTMAS, EVERYBODY!

THIS 'N' THAT - by B. ROTH

This week's prize for the best absence excuse goes to Freshman Savoy. Said gentleman having been reliably quoted as using the dodge: "Sore foot, dropped a biscuit on it."

Well, well, Savoy, we didn't know you were married.

* * * * *

With the advent of cold weather, the Rindge Road resort has quite definitely lost its popularity. We judge that suggestions as to a substitute are not necessary; the supposition being that-where there is a will, there's a way. At least that's what they say.

* * * * *

And then there was Waring. He was so green he thought that "soccer" was something that Barnum said was born every minute.

Well, see you later!

FRESHMAN NEWS

The Freshman Class has decided to give the upper classmen a very delightful and pleasing surprise. They will give a Winter Carnival Ball in the Library in place of the customary Valentine Party. Leave it to the Freshmen - they're right there!

GIRLS' GLEE CLUB

The Girls' Glee Club carried on the long established custom of the candle light procession at the Christmas assembly. The singing of carols by the combined clubs and the freshmen proved to be one of the high spots of the morning.

SURPRISE! SURPRISE!

Watch for the coming announcements from the Typographical Society. The "Typo" promises to furnish us with a new and unique type of stationery for personal or business use at a nominal cost.

DEBATING CLUB

Our first assembly debate is booked for Tuesday, January 8. The question is, "Resolved that government ownership of public utilities is desirable". The following are to take part:

Affirmative

Donald McCaffrey, Capt.
John English
Ida Rovno
Leonard Misula, Alternate

Negative

Carl Matson, Captain
Kenneth Ladner
Francis Hanley
Cecelia Callanan, Alternate

Negotiations have been completed for a debate with Bay Path in April here at our College and a return engagement in Springfield later in April.

The first entertainment by the debating club will be held on January 28. Don McCaffrey and his committee are completing arrangements.

W.A.A. NEWS

Winter Schedule for the W.A.A. -

Monday - Extra Curricular, Basketball

Tuesday - Individual Activities, Bowling

Wednesday - Basketball

Thursday - Basketball

Friday - Basketball

The Individual Activities on Tuesday consist of Badminton, public tennis, ring pong, and a new game called Basket Tennis. From all reports this new game is full of fun and calls for plenty of skill.

There are plans for two hikes a month. Soon there will be a scavenger hike. This is something new and different!

Lou Harrington and Dolly Sullivan head Volleyball and Baseball respectively.

Representatives chosen are as follows: Senior-Alice Kyte, Junior-Aini Warttainen and Edith Hill, Sophomore-Ellen Funaiolo, and the Frosh chosen is Dot Dolan.

Rosanna LaCroix is the Orange Captain and Obie Berlied is the Black Captain. Good luck to both of you!

The W.A.A. broke into print in Dot Lindsey's column in the Boston Herald last week.

SPORT CHATTER

Believe it or not-the Fitchburg basketeers have amassed a total of 121 points in the two games with Hyannis and Worcester Tech and their opponents have but 35 points. This year's team seems to be a top-notcher for scoring.

School spirit certainly abounded at the Tech game. There wasn't an empty seat in the gym. Although Tech was outclassed during the entire game the student body backed their team to the limit with their cheers and yells.

We've got the best basketball quintet that has ever represented Fitchburg. Come out to the games after Christmas and see them play.

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SPORT CHATTER (Cont'd)

Clif Southworth, Coach of Soccer, was given a distinct honor when he was chosen for the Mass. State all-opponent soccer team.

Hockey has been voted a major sport by the Men's A.A. Maury (Count) Burns has been selected as coach. A hockey rink will be built on the Athletic field.

Hockey practice has been held at Put's Pond for the past week. Carney, Hamilton, Purcell, Shea, Foye, Waring, Moore, Spring, and Sargent being the most promising candidates.

Inter-class basketball will begin after the Christmas vacation. The "Irish Schoolmasters" (picked from the senior class) are expected to be the "dark horses" of the race.

Don't you think it's about time our athletic field received its baptism - that is a name? Let's hear your suggestions!

Fitchburg Humbles Worcester Tech

Before a crowd which taxed the capacity of Alumni Gym, Fitchburg Teachers College trounced Worcester Tech to the tune of 49 - 22. This marks the second straight triumph of the Green and White, and from their sterling play of last Saturday evening, Coach "Puna" Nelson's are in for a banner season.

Fitchburg got off to a slow start and at the end of the first period led, 7 to 6. Led by the co-captains "Chick" Andrews and "Oscar" Lahtinen the Teachers "went places" in the second period and wound up the first half by leading 25 to 10. "Papa" Johnson took the lead in the third period and popped them in from all parts of the court. The play of the Worcesterites during this session was so ragged that Coach Nelson sent in the "subs" to finish the game. The Fitchburg reserves did a good job in holding down the Tech regulars, and the game ended with F. T. C. on the long end of the score 49 to 22.

GAVEL RATTLES

Was his pan pink! "Paging Elmore Putnam" the usher cried at the Fitchburg theatre the other night. Our cadaverous hero arose to the call only to be greeted by a sarcastic voice in the lobby, "Is your name Eleanor Putnam?"

Star athlete wins game but loses girl!

T. B. or not T. B. -- that seems to be the question of late.

Wanted: An ant-eater for Palmer Hall. He certainly wouldn't go hungry.

Marcy me! But Purcell spends a lot of time in Leominster!

And then there's Waring. He was so green that he thought soccer was something Barnum said was born every minute.

Paul plus Paul can't make A. Marshall.

Pimental: "You're not playing that song the way it's written are you, Miss Perry?"

Beauty note: Don't use Palmolive for "that schoolgirl complexion". Madam Mitchell, beauty expert endorses "Tidbits". Yes, Cheese Tidbits.

Mr. Weston: "Didn't some one just call me to the 'phone?"

Wasink: "Sure, I did."

Mr. Weston: "Who hung up the receiver?"

Wasink: "I did. I couldn't leave hanging, could I?"

The Man on the Flying Trapeze: Worsley Fardy.

Did you miff the Side Glances last week? Here are a few more hints: while swimming at Miami Beach, he was hooked by Grantland Rice who thought he was a tarpon--well, a fish, anyway--he must like plays; there are six girls in the Mohawk cast--next time get Ethel!

DORM NEWS

Tom Spring wins first prize in the Bridge tournament. The runners-up are Joe Mahoney and Bob Hamilton.

